



City and County of San Francisco
Juvenile Probation Department

Department Priorities and Budget Planning Guiding Principles

Department Priorities

As part of its mandated functions, JPD investigates referrals on youth alleged to have committed a crime. The Department provides assessment, supervision services and custodial care for youth who are wards of the court or who have been deemed in need of such services by the Superior Court, Juvenile Division, for the City and County of San Francisco. For the Department to comply with its mandates, these functions must be sufficiently funded.

JPD also operates two 24-hr residential facilities: the Juvenile Justice Center where the county juvenile detention facility is located (Juvenile Hall) and the Log Cabin Ranch School, a residential program for adjudicated youth located in La Honda, California. Mandated staffing ratios, materials and supplies (e.g. food, clothing), and facilities maintenance functions must be adequately funded.

As part of its supervisory and custodial services, JPD identifies, develops, and administers programs for the assessment, education, treatment, rehabilitation and effective supervision of youth under the jurisdiction of the Department. As such, youth that are currently active in the juvenile justice system are the JPD's priority population.

Principles Guiding Department Budget Decisions

- Respond to the City's economic challenges and the fiscal directives of the Mayor's Budget Office to meet reduction targets in a manner that does not compromise the Department's ability to perform mandated responsibilities associated with the delivery of juvenile probation services and the preservation of public safety.
- Minimize the impact of mid-year budget cuts on the overall programs and services designed to support the objectives of the juvenile justice system.
- Prioritize the use of General Funds for the Department's mandated responsibilities and those contractual services that have the closest connection to the following core responsibilities associated with juvenile justice system involved youth:
 - Custodial care in Juvenile Hall and Juvenile Camp (Log Cabin Ranch)
 - Probation Case Management
 - Intensive Community Supervision
 - Shelter Care for JJ system wards
 - Detention Alternatives
 - DJJ Alternatives
 - Dispositional Commitments
 - Group Home and Foster Care placements

- Gender Specific Programming
- Investigation

- Preserve as many of the community-based, contractual services as possible that support the Department's work with the highest risk, juvenile justice system involved youth requiring custodial care, intensive community supervision, gender specific programming and alternatives to secure detention as directed by the court.

- Maintain programs, facilities, and operational standards required in accordance with Federal, State and local laws as well as those regulations administered by the Corrections Standards Authority.

In addition to the guiding principles outlined above, the Department seeks to adopt the following additional goals and objectives related to the budget process.

Moving Forward – Budget Development for Fiscal year 2009-2010

- The Commission and the Department will continue to strengthen relationships with its community service providers and internal stakeholders such as the District Attorney, Public Defender, and the Superior Court to ensure a transparent and engaging budget process. The Department will move aggressively to develop measures and outcomes for all programs that it operates and funds to better guide future budget decisions .

- The Department seeks to identify revenue maximizing strategies that include implementing fees allowable by the Welfare and Institutions Code.

- Develop business process improvements and program efficiencies in order to reduce costs and achieve better outcomes for youths and their families.